

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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*A Congregation of The Lutheran—Church Missouri Synod
Pastor Brian J. Thorson*



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

In Time of Pestilence

22 March A+D 2020

Welcome in the name of Christ our Savior!

Thank you for joining us where Christ our Lord has promised to be with his gifts of faith, forgiveness, and everlasting life through His Word and Sacraments! **Guests**, please sign our guestbook. To all in attendance, please sign the **Red Attendance Books** as they are passed down the pews during the offering.

Today's Service

Divine Service I,
p. 151

Hymns	571
	743
	439
	422
	420

About Communion at Grace

At Grace Lutheran Church, we follow the historical practice of closed Communion. The Lord's Supper is the meal that Christ our Lord bequeathed to the Church on the night when he was betrayed as his last will and testament. In the Supper, we receive the true and substantial body and blood of Jesus Christ which grants to each believing participant the forgiveness of sins. Since those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood without discerning his true and substantial presence do so to their great harm (1Co 11.27), we must, for the sake of love and pastoral care, ask those who are affiliated with other church bodies, or are not affiliated with any church body, to refrain from partaking of the Lord's Supper at Grace. Guests from sister congregations of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod are asked to speak briefly with the Pastor prior to the service. We thank you for honoring us and our confession of faith by helping us to faithfully practice closed communion at this altar, until the time when we may receive the Supper together in true and blessed unity!

*For more information, see Mt 26.17ff, Mk 14.12ff, Lk 22.7ff, and 1Co 11.23ff.
A detailed statement of our practice is available in the literature rack in the Narthex.*

Serving Today at Grace

Pastor	Brian J. Thorson
Organist	Jennifer Thorson
Elders	Mark Summerlin Dan Lefholz
Ushers	Charles Daehler Ethan Daehler
Altar Guild	Marilyn Schumacher Christy Hollingsworth
Greeters	None
Video	Dan Lefholz

Our Response to God's Grace

Present Last Week

Divine Service	43
Communed	30
Adult Bible Study	7
Sunday School	10
Midweek Study	4
WWW	Cancelled
Midweek Vespers	17

Offerings Last Sunday

General	\$1179
Sunday School	\$13
Midweek Lent 2	\$272

*Call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.
—Psalm 50:15*

The Call to Worship

The Bell is Sounded

Opening Hymn

LSB 571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 80:1, 4, 17, 19; antiphon: 2 Sam. 24:15–17, 1 Chron. 21:14–17



Remember, O Lord, your | covenant*
and say to your smiting | angel,
“Stay your hand, that the land may not become | desolate,”*
lest you destroy every | living soul.

Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*
you who lead Joseph | like a flock!

O Lord, | God of hosts,*
how long will you be angry with your | people’s prayers?
Let your hand be on the man of your | right hand,*
the son of man whom you have made strong | for yourself!

Restore us, O Lord | God of hosts!*
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Remember, O Lord, your | covenant*
and say to your smiting | angel,
“Stay your hand, that the land may not become | desolate,”*
lest you destroy every | living soul.

Kyrie

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted in Lent.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 24:15–25

¹⁵So the LORD sent a pestilence on Israel from the morning until the appointed time. And there died of the people from Dan to Beersheba 70,000 men. ¹⁶And when the angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD relented from the calamity and said to the angel who was working destruction among the people, “It is enough; now stay your hand.” And the angel of the LORD was by the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. ¹⁷Then David spoke to the LORD when he saw the angel who was striking the people, and said, “Behold, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly. But these sheep, what have they done? Please let your hand be against me and against my father’s house.”

¹⁸And Gad came that day to David and said to him, “Go up, raise an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.” ¹⁹So David went up at Gad’s word, as the LORD commanded. ²⁰And when Araunah looked down, he saw the king and his servants coming on toward him. And Araunah went out and paid homage to the king with his face to the ground. ²¹And Araunah said, “Why has my lord the king come to his servant?” David said, “To buy the threshing floor from you, in order to build an altar to the LORD, that the plague may be averted from the people.” ²²Then Araunah said to David, “Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him. Here are the oxen for the burnt offering and the threshing sledges and the yokes of the oxen for the wood. ²³All this, O king, Araunah gives to the king.” And Araunah said to the king, “The LORD your God accept you.” ²⁴But the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not

offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God that cost me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. ²⁵And David built there an altar to the LORD and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD responded to the plea for the land, and the plague was averted from Israel.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 107:20 –21



**He sent out his word and | healed them,*
and delivered them from their de- | struction.
Let them thank the Lord for his | steadfast love,*
for his wondrous works to the child- | ren of man!**

Epistle

Romans 5:15–21

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷If, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. ²⁰Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

Psalm 60:2, 4



**You, O Lord, have made the land to quake; you have torn it | open;*
heal its breaches, for it | totters.
That your beloved ones may be de- | livered,*
give salvation by your right hand and | answer us!**

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:38–41a

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁸And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. ³⁹And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

⁴⁰Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. ⁴¹And demons also came out of many, crying, "You are the Son of God!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

LSB 743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Sermon

Pastor Brian Thorson

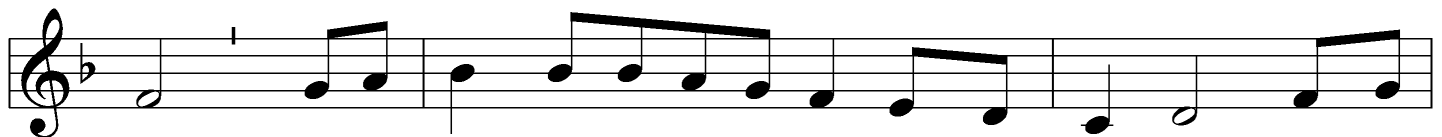
Stand

Offertory

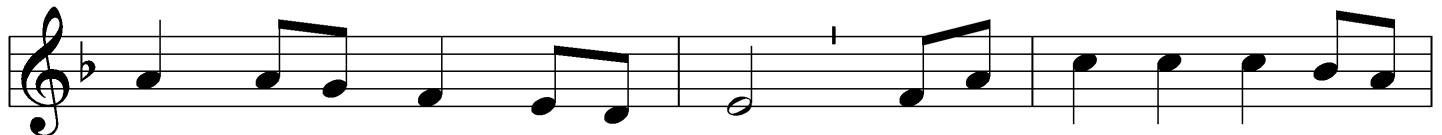
Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19



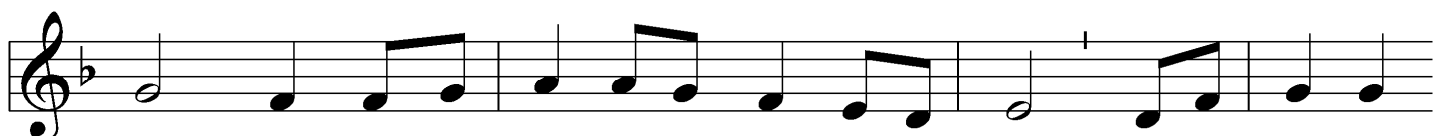
What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Be Seated

The Offering is Received

Stand

Prayer of the Church

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

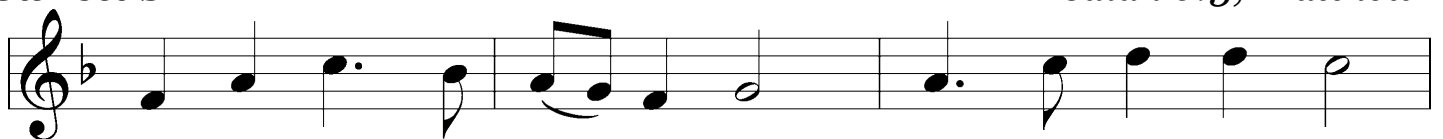
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those

who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Matt 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

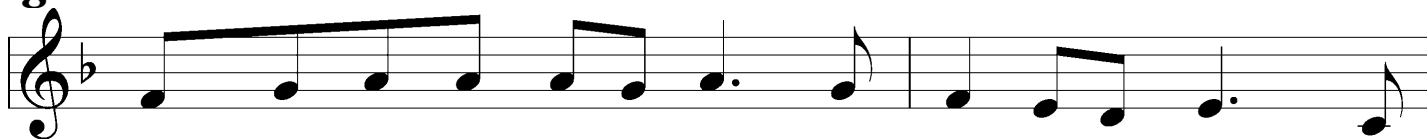
John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

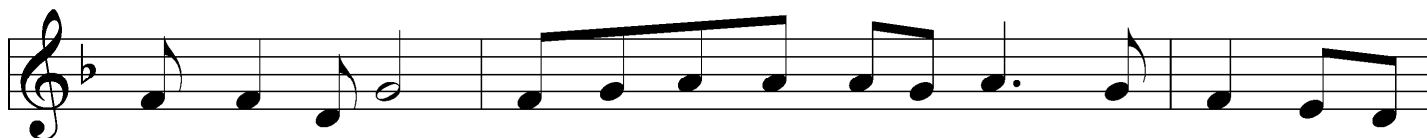
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

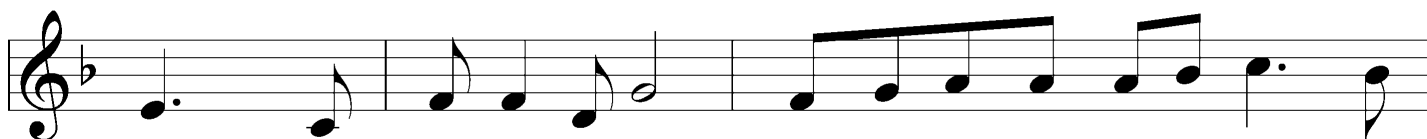
John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Be Seated

The Distribution

Distribution Hymn *LSB 439 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken*

Stand

Post-Communion Hymn

LSB 422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

1 On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;

Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!

Text: Public domain

Post-Communion Collect

A We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

LSB 420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

Acknowledgments

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Announcements

The following precautions have been implemented at Grace while the coronavirus is spreading across our country (these are recommended by The LCMS and many are aimed to prevent people from touching things that others have touched):

- You are encouraged to spread out throughout the sanctuary.
- *New for this week:* Please do not walk up to and visit with people entering the church or seated in the sanctuary.
- There are no greeters. Please pick your bulletin up at the table.
- Hand sanitizer is available at both entrances to the church and at the bulletin table.
- Ushers will hold on to the offering plates. They will not be passed down the pew.
- There are no fellowship pads to pass around.
- There will be no shaking hands with the pastor or others.
- Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of Jesus. The chalice has not been found to transmit diseases.
- The elders will be washing their hands prior to distributing the Sacrament. Pastor will wash his hands prior to the service and use hand sanitizer prior to the distribution.
- *New for this week:* You will not be ushered to come forward for Communion. Stand two pews back from those in front of you. There will be no kneeling. Receive the Body of Christ from the Pastor. If you wish to receive the chalice, wait for him to give it to you; otherwise step aside to receive your individual cup.
- Door handles and light switches have been disinfected.
- For those staying home with flu-like symptoms (or are at-risk) may receive a DVD of the service by calling the Church Office.

Midweek Lenten Services continue this Wednesday. Our topic is the Lord's Prayer and the Vespers service begins at 7:00 p.m. The meal is cancelled.

Most activities at church have been cancelled to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Sunday services, midweek Lent Vespers, and Holy Week services are still being offered. Pastoral care is still available from Pastor. He is happy to privately commune our members who desire it. To schedule, call or text him at 816-934-1741.

Thrivent Choice Dollars expire March 31. Please take time to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to the organization of your choosing. Choice Dollars can be designated online at www.thrivent.com or by calling Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836. If you do not designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars, they will expire at the end of March. If you require further assistance, please contact your Thrivent Financial Representative.

Easter lily order forms are available for you in the narthex. If you would like to order a lily to decorate the church for the Easter season, please fill out the form and place it and your money in the basket provided. *The Altar Guild*

Portals of Prayer for April-June are now available in the narthex table.

Submit agenda items for the April 14 voters meeting to President Jim Steffens by April 2.

We have a Preschool teacher. If you know of students who are interested in enrolling, please contact the Church Office to receive registration forms.

Volunteers are needed to be trained in using the church's automatic defibrillator (AED). A layperson's CPR class and AED training will be offered at the Lexington Fire Department once a month for the next several months (a free 2-hour class). Please see Kristin Summerlin or Bernice Wagner for additional information.

Plans for Vacation Bible School are beginning. We need a VBS Director or a pair of codirectors. Please prayerfully consider serving this year. If interested, please see Pastor or Education Committee chairman Dan Lefholz.

Immanuel Lutheran School, Higginsville, is searching for a principal. If you know of those who would be a good fit to serve the school, please nominate them by contacting the school at 660-584-2854.

Bridge of Hope Resource Center has outgrown its current space and purchased the old Bott Radio building on the south side of the square in Richmond. An anonymous donor has come forward to match \$25,000 in donations given by May 22, 2020. If you would like to help, please send your donation to Bridge of Hope, 112 S. College St., Richmond, MO 64085.

Our hymn of the Lenten season is LSB 420, "LSB 420 Christ, the Life of All the Living." written by Ernst Homburg (1605-1681). He became highly regarded as a poet while writing secular poetry but after an illness and domestic issues, he began to write Christian poetry. This hymn is based on John 1:4, "In him was life, and the life was the light of men."

The Lent/Holy Week offering designations are as follows:

- Midweek Lent 4 (March 25): University Lutheran Chapel in Minneapolis
- Midweek Lent 5 (April 1): KMMO Radio Missions
- Maundy Thursday (April 9): Seminarian Tom Goodroad from Trinity, Kearney
- Good Friday (April 10): Local Lutherans for Life
- Holy Saturday (April 11): Community Charity

The Nominating Committee presents this slate of candidates for offices in the congregation for the coming year:

Nominations for the April Voters' Assembly

Continuing in Service

President	Eddie Jeske Jr.	Trustee until 2021	Justin Bertz
Vice President	Ted Traczewski	Trustee until 2021	Charles Daehler
Secretary	Gerald Lohofener	Trustee until 2022	Jeremy Ahmann
Treasurer	Larry Nienhiser	Trustee until 2022	John Gooden
Financial Secretary	Charles Hollingsworth	Elder until 2021	Bob Buhrmester
Trustee until 2023	Ethan Daehler	Elder until 2021	Mark Summerlin
Trustee until 2023	David Rasa	Elder until 2022	Dan Lefholz
Elder until 2023	Norman Rasa	Elder until 2022	Elmer Leimkuehler
Elder until 2023	Jim Steffens		

An Order for Daily Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

My mouth is filled with Your praise, **And with Your glory all the day.**

O Lord, open my lips, **And my mouth will declare your praise.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn: LSB 420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

4 Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,

Treating Thee with shameful scorn

And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.

All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne,

That as Thine Thou mightest own me

And with heav'nly glory crown me.

Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,

Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Catechism Recitation: Confession

Which are these? Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

Scripture Recitation: Psalm 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

The Ten Commandments and the Creed may be confessed. A devotion may be read. The Lord's Prayer may be prayed.

Let us pray. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Special Prayers

Homebound: Kay Alpers, Shirley Bertz, Arnold Viebrock

Sick, injured, recovering or special needs: Perry Copus, Erma Hechsel, Terry Thorson, Sam Wagner, and Lyn & Barb Wilkey

Marriage: MaCahla Leslie (Marilyn Schumacher's granddaughter) to Bradley Kugler who were married yesterday

Expecting Parents: Rebecca & Scott Steele

Those in the armed forces: Jared Clapper (deployed to Iraq), Sarah & Tom Seagroatt

Seminary Students: Michael Fox, Dale Krienke, and Tom Goodroad

Missions: Rev. John Fehrmann of CLEF, Rev. Charles Ferry in Southeast Asia, our preschool, and the work of our congregation

Our congregation, as we observe our centennial

To add or remove names from our prayer list, please contact Pastor. Thank you.

This Week at Grace

For hospital visits, private confession and absolution, communion for the homebound or any other pastoral calls, please contact Pastor.

Today, Mar. 22, 2020: The Fourth Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study (Galatians)
10:00 a.m. Divine Service

Wed, Mar. 25: 7:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers

Next Sunday, Mar. 29: Judica, the Fifth Sunday in Lent (Passion Sunday)

9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Divine Service

Looking Ahead

Apr. 5-11 Holy Week

Apr. 12 Easter

Oct. 4 Centennial Celebration